

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claim listing with the following:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A top for a convertible vehicle, comprising  
a rigid moveable roof part with an outer surface and an inner surface;  
a cover including a flexible sheet-like element; and  
a linkage, to which the roof part is fixed, disposed between the outer surface of the roof part and the cover in a closed state of the convertible top, the linkage being moveable relative to the roof part during an opening movement of the convertible top, wherein the cover is moveable away from the roof part during the opening movement of the convertible top so as to create a space for the linkage.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A top for a convertible vehicle, comprising  
a rigid moveable roof part with an outer surface and an inner surface;  
a cover including a flexible sheet-like element;  
a linkage disposed between the outer surface of the roof part and the cover in a closed state of the convertible top, the linkage being moveable relative to the roof part during an opening movement of the convertible top, wherein the cover is moveable away from the roof part during the opening movement of the convertible top so as to create a space for the linkage and a pulling device having a first end connected to the cover and configured to tension the cover.

Claim 3 (original): The convertible top as recited in claim 2, wherein the pulling device has a second end connected to the linkage.

Claim 4 (original): The convertible top as recited in claim 2, wherein the pulling device is guided on the roof part.

Claim 5 (original): The convertible top as recited in claim 1, wherein the cover includes a lateral border region, at least a portion of the border region being secured to the roof part.

Claim 6 (original): The convertible top as recited in claim 1, wherein the cover includes a strip of material.

Claim 7 (original): The convertible top as recited in claim 1, wherein the cover is disposed at a lateral border region of the roof part in the closed state of the convertible top.

Claim 8 (original): The convertible top as recited in claim 1, wherein the cover includes a stiffening device disposed over at least a portion of a surface of the cover.

Claim 9 (cancelled).

Claim 10 (previously presented): A top for a convertible vehicle, comprising  
a rigid moveable roof part with an outer surface and an inner surface;  
a cover including a flexible sheet-like element;  
a linkage disposed between the outer surface of the roof part and the cover in a closed state of the convertible top, the linkage being moveable relative to the roof part during an opening movement of the convertible top, wherein the cover is moveable away from the roof part during the opening movement of the convertible top so as to create a space for the linkage;  
a second roof part and wherein the cover is at least partially secured to the second roof part;  
a third roof part;  
a second cover at least partially secured on the third roof part and the second roof part;  
and  
a second linkage disposed between the third roof part and the second cover in the closed state of the convertible top.

Claim 11 (original): The convertible top as recited in claim 10, wherein, in the closed state of the convertible top, the roof part is disposed in front of the second roof part and the second roof part is disposed in front of the third roof part with respect to a travel direction of the vehicle.

Claim 12 (original): The convertible top as recited in claim 11, wherein during the opening of the convertible top, the roof part is moveable to a position above the second roof part and the third roof part is moveable to a position above the roof part and the second roof part.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A top for a convertible vehicle, comprising  
a rigid moveable roof part with an outer surface and an inner surface;  
a cover including a flexible sheet-like element;  
a linkage disposed between the outer surface of the roof part and the cover in a closed state of the convertible top, the linkage being moveable relative to the roof part during an opening movement of the convertible top, wherein the cover is moveable away from the roof part during the opening movement of the convertible top so as to create a space for the linkage, the linkage is included in a four-bar mechanism having a connecting rod and wherein the roof part is secured on the connecting rod.

Claim 14 (original): The convertible top as recited in claim 13, wherein the linkage includes a first link and a second link of the four-bar mechanism.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The convertible top as recited in claim 1, wherein the cover is provided separately from an inner surface of the roof part.